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MAR 05 2009

Application No.: 10/561,662

Docket No.: JCLA13942

AMENDMENT

In The Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1. (currently amended) A slide bearing comprising:

a matrix made of a metal; and

a slide layer formed on a predetermined surface of the matrix and having a bearing surface which slides with a shaft member, wherein

the matrix has a contact surface which performs one of rolling and sliding over a mating member and the matrix is made of an Fe-based sintered metal material having an Fe content of 90 weight% or more,

the surface of the matrix on which the slider layer is formed has a surface opening ratio of 20 to 50%, and

the slide layer is formed by insert molding the slide material composition including a resin as a base material on the surface of the matrix.

Claim 2. (canceled)

Claim 3. (currently amended) The slide bearing according to claim 1, wherein a product of [[()]]linear expansion coefficient of slide material composition forming slide layer[()]] and [[()]]thickness of slide layer[()]] is 0.15 or less.

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Claim 4. (previously presented) The slide bearing according to claims 1, wherein the slide material composition forming the slide layer comprises a lubricant.

Claim 5. (original) The slide bearing according to claim 4, wherein the slide material composition forming the slide layer further comprises a porous silica impregnated with a lubricant.

Claim 6. (original) The slide bearing according to claim 5, wherein the porous silica is a globular porous silica having interconnected pores.

Claim 7. (original) The slide bearing according to claim 6, wherein the globular porous silica has an average particle diameter of 0.5 to 100 μm .

Claim 8. (currently amended) The slide bearing according to any one of claim 1, wherein a base material of the slide material composition forming the slide layer is polyethylene resin.

Claim 9. (previously presented) The slide bearing according to claim 4, wherein the lubricant is silicone oil.

Claim 10. (currently amended) A cam follower comprising:
a shaft member cantilevered at one end; and
a slide bearing fitted onto the shaft member,
wherein the slide bearing comprises a matrix made of a metal; and a slide layer formed on a predetermined surface of the matrix and having a bearing surface which slides with a shaft member,
wherein

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the matrix has a contact surface which performs one of rolling and sliding over a mating member and the matrix is made of an Fe-based sintered metal material having an Fe content of 90 weight% or more,

the surface of the matrix on which the slider layer is formed has a surface opening ratio of 20 to 50%, and

the slide layer is formed by insert molding the slide material composition including a resin as a base material on the surface of the matrix.

Claim 11. (canceled)

Claim 12. (currently amended) The cam follower according to claim 10, wherein a product of [[()]]linear expansion coefficient of slide material composition forming slide layer[[D]] and [[()]]thickness of slide layer[[D]] is 0.15 or less.

Claim 13. (previously presented) The cam follower according to claim 11, wherein the slide material composition forming the slide layer comprises a lubricant.

Claim 14. (previously presented) The cam follower according to claim 13, wherein the slide material composition forming the slide layer further comprises a porous silica impregnated with a lubricant.

Claim 15. (previously presented) The cam follower according to claim 14, wherein the porous silica is a globular porous silica having interconnected pores.

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Claim 16. (previously presented) The cam follower according to claim 15, wherein the globular porous silica has an average particle diameter of 0.5 to 100 μm .

Claim 17. (previously presented) The cam follower according to claim 10, wherein a base material of the slide material composition forming the slide layer is polyethylene resin.

Claim 18. (previously presented) The cam follower according to claim 13, wherein the lubricant is silicone oil.

Claims 19 and 20 (canceled)

Claim 21. (currently amended) The slide bearing according to claim 1, wherein the contact surface is formed on the outer peripheral surface of the matrix; the slide layer is formed from the inner peripheral surface to the both end surfaces of the matrix;

the bearing surface of the slide layer formed on the inner peripheral surface of the matrix is a radial bearing face [[fro]] for supporting a radial load from the shaft member; and the bearing surfaces of the slide layer formed on both end faces of the matrix are thrust bearing faces for supporting a thrust load from the shaft member.

Claim 22. (currently amended) The slide bearing according to claim 3, wherein the contact surface is formed on the outer peripheral surface of the matrix;

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the slide layer is formed from the inner peripheral surface to the both end surfaces of the matrix;

the bearing surface of the slide layer formed on the inner peripheral surface of the matrix is a radial bearing face [[fro]] for supporting a radial load from the shaft member; and

the bearing surfaces of the slide layer formed on both end faces of the matrix are thrust bearing faces for supporting a thrust load from the shaft member.

Claims 23-26 (canceled)

Claim 27. (currently amended) The cam follower according to claim 10, wherein the contact surface is formed on the outer peripheral surface of the matrix; the slide layer is formed from the inner peripheral surface to the both end surfaces of the matrix;

the bearing surface of the slide layer formed on the inner peripheral surface of the matrix is a radial bearing face [[fro]] for supporting a radial load from the shaft member; and

the bearing surfaces of the slide layer formed on both end faces of the matrix are thrust bearing faces for supporting a thrust load from the shaft member.

Claim 28. (currently amended) The cam follower according to claim 12, wherein the contact surface is formed on the outer peripheral surface of the matrix; the slide layer is formed from the inner peripheral surface to the both end surfaces of the matrix;

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the bearing surface of the slide layer formed on the inner peripheral surface of the matrix is a radial bearing face [[fro]] for supporting a radial load from the shaft member; and

the bearing surfaces of the slide layer formed on both end faces of the matrix are thrust bearing faces for supporting a thrust load from the shaft member.

Claims 29 and 30 (canceled)